

OXC-2888

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5 JAN 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)
THROUGH : Acting Chief, DFD *SwB.*
SUBJECT : United Nations Registry of Satellites

1. Mr. Cunningham has written you a more detailed report on a meeting of 29 December with Alexis Johnson of State, Joe Charyk, and ourselves. The meeting was called by Mr. Johnson to discuss the implication of a United Nations resolution requiring registration of all satellites launched by member nations. This resolution is embarrassing in that it was sponsored by our government and apparently with insufficient coordination between State and Defense.

2. We are agreed that since the resolution is an accomplished fact that we must abide in good faith by its requirements. Joe Charyk advanced the alternative of full disclosure of purpose to which I object in that I am convinced the Soviets would use that disclosure as a basis of retaliatory threats to an extent which would force our government to cease satellite reconnaissance. We then agreed to a policy of minimum necessary disclosure of date and place of launch, identification of vehicle, orbit parameters and generalized statement of purpose consistent with our CORONA cover stories. State will determine if NASA is willing to abide by this policy.

4. It may be worth an attempt by yourself and Joe Charyk to reduce the State Department enthusiasm for satellite registration since it serves no useful end toward control of space for peaceful purposes. Only pre-launch inspection could insure prevention of launching satellites for belligerent purposes and such inspection is not part of the registration process. Additionally, a few deliberate omissions and late reportings may help to put the whole registration process into disrepute and cause its eventual abandonment. In any event we should resist strongly any

NRO review(s) completed.

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moves by our government to act unilaterally or to assume leadership in this satellite giveaway measure. Charyk believes the matter should be brought before the 5412 group and General Taylor for resolution.

5. Finally, a discussion between yourself and Joe Charyk to define

25X1 [redacted] In this regard the Air Force
are adding Colonel Rusek, U.S. Army, who has functioned as ANCON project
officer, and Captain Gorman, U.S. Navy, who has been a focal point for
satellite activities in that service, to the staff of General Greer in
25X1 Inglewood. Gorman at least, along with others under Greer, will serve as
[redacted] This organizational
action moves the center of such activity from Washington to the West Coast
and in effect makes participation by ourselves in these deliberations
difficult at best.

/s/

EUGENE P. KIEFER
SA/TA/DPD

SA/TA/DPD-EPK:hmf (5 January 1962)

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